

forcefulness, honesty and wit to accomplish her goals.

While in college in Minnesota, Maureen started a campaign to get the city of Minneapolis to lengthen the time of the green traffic lights so that she and other persons with disabilities could cross the streets safely. Later, she worked tirelessly for the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and attended the signing ceremony at the White House.

After living in New York City and Tokyo, Maureen, her husband Takashi, and their daughter Hannah moved to Chappaqua in 1997. She quickly became involved in civic and political organizations, often accompanied by her young daughter to whom she was totally devoted. Maureen Keating Tsuchiya worked with Westchester Disabled on the Move on a voting rights lawsuit by testing polling places for their accessibility. She also spearheaded an effort to increase access to the Chappaqua train station.

Maureen Keating Tsuchiya, although taken from us and her valiant causes prematurely, leaves a rich legacy of principled activism and involvement for all of us to emulate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in offering condolences to her husband, her daughter, and her entire family.

#### HONORING JACK FINNEY

#### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my friend Jack Finney. Jack recently celebrated his 90th birthday by donating more than \$1 million to the Hunt Memorial Hospital District Charitable Health Foundation. Jack's generous donation will ultimately enhance the soon-to-be-built cancer center on the campus of Presbyterian Hospital of Greenville.

Jack has a long history of making generous gifts to the community, having donated land, money, and his time to a variety of institutions such as Texas A&M University at College Station, Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum, Greenville YMCA, Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Paris Junior College, Texas A&M University-Commerce, the Greenville schools and many others. Other institutions that have benefited from his leadership include the local Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Development as well as Texas A&M University, the Texas Baptist Foundation, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Jack's efforts have led to multiple honors from Texas A&M, including his selection as a Distinguished Alumnus and election to the Hall of Honor of the A&M Corps of Cadets. Jack has also been honored with Greenville's "Worthy Citizen" Award, for which he donated \$50,000 establishing an endowment to maintain the annual award in perpetuity.

In appreciation of Jack's latest gift, the Hospital District's Board of Directors have decided to name the new cancer center the Lou and Jack Finney Cancer Center in honor of Jack and his late wife, Lou House Finney. Lou and Jack were married for 68 years prior to her death in 2005.

During the reception honoring Jack's gift, Mayor Tom Oliver of Greenville proclaimed

August 15th Jack Finney Day in the City of Greenville.

It has been speculated that Jack's gift is the largest single gift that an individual has ever made to a non-profit organization in Hunt County, and that certainly speaks volumes about Jack's generosity. Having given his time, money, and energy to so many worthy causes it is not surprising for Jack to have celebrated his 90th birthday with so large and charitable a gift. The community is fortunate indeed to have so generous a benefactor. Jack has spent his life serving and enriching the community, and his latest gift only further reinforces this legacy.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in appreciation of the benevolence of this fine man and my friend—Jack Finney.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL G. OXLEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, Congressman MIKE OXLEY served the 4th district of Ohio for 25 years with great distinction. Much can be said about a man who dedicates himself to the People's House for a quarter-century. Perhaps the most telling example of his magnetism and leadership can be seen in the number of staff members who dedicated themselves to serving Mr. OXLEY during his distinguished tenure.

The longstanding members of Mr. OXLEY's staff—Jim Conzelman, Debi Deimling, Bonnie Dunbar, Bob Foster, Phil Holloway, Tim Johnson, Kelly Kirk and Peggy Peterson—have served the chairman a combined 250 years among them. This is an amazing feat, given the fact that Capitol Hill is synonymous with high turnover rates and the frequent shuffling of staff members. I believe this speaks to the statesmanship MIKE OXLEY exhibited over his congressional career. His colleagues—just like his staffers—recognize his character, which inspires loyalty and perseverance.

#### INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 1106

#### HON. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I come before this body today as a proud American and as a servant of the American people, sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States.

Throughout my tenure, I've always tried to speak the truth. It is that commitment that brings me here today.

We have a President who has misgoverned and a Congress that has refused to hold him accountable. It is a grave situation and I believe the stakes for our country are high.

No American is above the law, and if we allow a President to violate, at the most basic and fundamental level, the trust of the people and then continue to govern, without a proc-

ess for holding him accountable—what does that say about our commitment to the truth? To the Constitution? To our democracy?

The trust of the American people has been broken. And a process must be undertaken to repair this trust. This process must begin with honesty and accountability.

Leading up to our invasion of Iraq, the American people supported this Administration's actions because they believed in our President. They believed he was acting in good faith. They believed that American laws and American values would be respected. That in the weightiness of everything being considered, two values were rock solid—trust and truth.

From mushroom clouds to African yellow cake to aluminum tubes, the American people and this Congress were not presented the facts, but rather were presented a string of untruths, to justify the invasion of Iraq.

President Bush, along with Vice President CHENEY and then-National Security Advisor Rice, portrayed to the Congress and to the American people that Iraq represented an imminent threat, culminating with President Bush's claim that Iraq was six months away from developing a nuclear weapon. Having used false fear to buy consent—the President then took our country to war.

This has grave consequences for the health of our democracy, for our standing with our allies, and most of all, for the lives of our men and women in the military and their families—who have been asked to make sacrifices—including the ultimate sacrifice—to keep us safe.

Just as we expect our leaders to be truthful, we expect them to abide by the law and respect our courts and judges. Here again, the President failed the American people.

When President Bush signed an executive order authorizing unlawful spying on American citizens, he circumvented the courts and the law, and he violated the separation of powers provided by the Constitution. Once the program was revealed, he then tried to hide the scope of his offense from the American people by making contradictory, untrue statements.

President George W. Bush has failed to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States; he has failed to ensure that senior members of his administration do the same; and he has betrayed the trust of the American people.

With a heavy heart and in the deepest spirit of patriotism, I exercise my duty and responsibility to speak truthfully about what is before us. To shy away from this responsibility would be easier. But I have not been one to travel the easy road. I believe in this country, and in the power of our democracy. I feel the steely conviction of one who will not let the country I love descend into shame; for the fabric of our democracy is at stake.

Some will call this a partisan vendetta, others will say this is an unimportant distraction to the plans of the incoming Congress. But this is not about political gamesmanship.

I am not willing to put any political party before my principles.

This, instead, is about beginning the long road back to regaining the high standards of truth and democracy upon which our great country was founded.

Mr. Speaker, under the standards set by the United States Constitution, President Bush—along with Vice President CHENEY, and Secretary of State Rice—should be subject to the